

landings by weight for any given year from 1972-1984 (Table 1). However, this changes from 1985-2001, as the percent composition of shellfish never drops below 20% of the total landings by weight for any given year (Table 1). Shellfish composition of the state's landings reached a maximum of 44.4% in 1999 and low of 7.4% in 1975 (Table 1).

Shellfish landings remained steady from 1972-1977 and then increased during 1978-1980 (Table 1). Shellfish landings then remained fairly stable until 1991 and then shellfish landings fluctuated for the next two years (Table 1). Shellfish landings then increased from 1993-1996 but from 1997-2001 a decreasing trend is observed (Table 1). The maximum landings of shellfish occurred in 1996 with almost 74 million pounds landed and a minimum of 17 million pounds in 1975 (Table 1).

The percent value of shellfish landings fluctuated widely from 1972-1984 (Figure 4). However, from 1984-2001 the percent value of shellfish has been greater than the percent value of finfish (Figure 4). The percent value of shellfish exhibited an increasing trend from 1984-1999 and then began to show a decreasing trend from 1999-2001 (Figure 4). The percent value of shellfish reached a maximum at 65% in 1999 and a low of 37% in 1981 (Figure 4).

The current value for shellfish landed in North Carolina remained stable from 1972-1975 (Table 3). During 1976, the current value of shellfish began increasing until 1980 (Table 3). The current value then remained relatively stable until 1988, except for a decline in current value occurring in 1981 (Table 3). Current value then increased in 1988 and remained stable until 1991 when an increasing trend began (Table 3). The current value continued to increase until 1995 and then the current value remained stable until 2000 (Table 3). The current value then began to show a declining trend in 2001 (Table 3). The current value reached a maximum at \$68 million in 2000 and a minimum of \$6 million in 1972 (Table 3).

The deflated value for shellfish remained stable from 1972-1975 (Table 3). Deflated value then increased in 1976 and remained steady until 1978 (Table 3). The deflated value fluctuated from \$9 million to \$17 million from 1979-1982 and then remained stable from 1982 through 1991 (Table 3). The deflated value decreased in 1992 but then quickly increased in 1993 and continued the trend until 1995 (Table 3). The deflated value remained steady from 1995-2000 but in 2001 the beginning of a declining